Name of the Region	Postal	RMS
Bombay	199	106
Aurangabad	35	—
Goa	—	—
Pune	—	22
Nagpur	—	31
TOTAL	234	159

(c) In Maharashtra Postal Circle during the years 1989 to 1994, casual labourers eligible and conferred with temporary status year-wise is as follows:—

Year	Nos.
1989	374
1990	14
1991	5
1992	—
1993	—
1994	—
TOTAL	393

(d) Postmaster General, Pune and Postal/RMS Divisions in Bombay have implemented the scheme referred to in the reply to (a) above and given temporary status to all eligible casual labourers engaged upto 29.11.89.

(e) In view of the reply to (d) above, does not arise.

Promotion of Fruit and Vegetable Processing Industries

1730. SHRI DILIP SINGH JUDEV: Will the Minister of FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES be pleased to state:

(a) the average total quantum of fruits and vegetables getting spoiled each year due to non-availability of storage, transport and marketing facility;

(b) whether Government are contemplating any action plan to promote fruits and vegetables processing industries as cottage industry to promote the agricultural employment and to save the fruits and vegetables from getting spoiled; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF FOOD PROCESSING INDUSTRIES (SHRI K.P. SINGH DEO): (a) to (c) Although no survey has been conducted to assess the perishing and fruits un-utilised, it is estimated that quality deterioration and loss in value that take place is about 25—30 per cent in some fruits and vegetables due to inadequacy of post-harvest infrastructure and perishability of the produce. However, since substantial quantity of fruits & vegetables are utilised in household and unorganised sector for preservation, etc., the net unutilised quantity may not exceed 5%.

Technical assistance and guidance is extended by Officers of the Directorate of Fruits & Vegetables under this Ministry to the small fruit & vegetable processors including those operating in the cottage scale. Government also is assisting setting up of Food Processing Training Centres in which training is given to the rural entrepreneurs in appropriate technologies for processing of food products including fruits & vegetable products so as to enable and encourage them to set up and/or run small and cottage units in a scientific manner. During the 8th Plan, 250 such Centres are proposed to be assisted. These Centres will help guiding the existing entreprenures. Under the Plan Schemes of the Ministry assistance are also available for upgrading/ modernisation of existing food units and for marketing of products of small units. Financial assistance are also available for setting up of small units under the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojna and other schemes of the Government.